REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application is respectfully traversed.

The present preliminary amendment is submitted to correct two minor informalities in the specification, which are deemed to be self-evident from the original disclosure and thus not raise any issues of new matter.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{Customer Number} \\ 22850 \end{array}$

Tel: (703) 413-3000 Fax: (703) 413 -2220 (OSMMN 06/04)

GJM/SNS/law I:\atty\sns\261889US-pr.doc Gregory J. Maier Attorney of Record Registration No. 25,599 Surinder Sachar

Registration No. 34,423